

G-011/M-91-989 ORDER APPROVING FARM-TAP SAFETY BROCHURE

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Don Storm
Tom Burton
Marshall Johnson
Cynthia A. Kitlinski
Dee Knaak

Chair
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner

In the Matter of Peoples Natural Gas
Company's Request to Establish a Tariff for
Repairing and Replacing Farm-Tap Lines

ISSUE DATE: April 7, 1994

DOCKET NO. G-011/M-91-989

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BROCHURE

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On January 20, 1994, the Commission issued its ORDER APPROVING PROPOSAL, ALLOWING DEFERRAL OF COSTS, AND REQUIRING FURTHER FILINGS. Among other things, the Order directed Peoples Natural Gas Company (Peoples) to submit a brochure or notice for its farm-tap customers discussing

- farm-tap safety concerns
- the responsibility of customers for their farm-tap lines
- information about Peoples' farm-tap safety inspection program and
- customer options for obtaining maintenance and repair service.

On February 22, 1994, Peoples submitted three different versions of a brochure entitled *Safety Notice to Our Minnesota Farm Tap Customers*.

On March 11, 1994, after conferring with Commission Staff, Peoples resubmitted a single version of the brochure. No party filed comments regarding the proposed brochure.

On March 24, 1994, the Commission met to consider this matter.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

The proposed brochure, as revised, contains the elements required by the Commission's January 20, 1994 Order in this matter and presents them in an acceptable format. The brochure should serve to clearly inform Peoples' farm-tap customers about what Peoples will do when they inspect the farm-tap lines, what the customer's responsibilities are for maintaining these lines and where customers can go for more information.

The Minnesota Department of Public Service (the Department) did not comment on the proposed brochure or raise any objections. However, in earlier comments on Peoples' amended safety inspection proposal, the Department recommended that to avoid any charges of unfair competition Peoples' should inform its customers that other service representatives are available to provide repairs besides Peoples.

The Commission notes that the brochure section entitled "Who Can Do The Maintenance For Me?" explains the alternatives available to farm-tap customers and will protect Peoples from charges of unfair competition.

Based on this evaluation, the Commission will approve Peoples' proposed brochure, as revised.

ORDER

1. The proposed brochure entitled *Safety Notice to Our Minnesota Farm Tap Customers*, as revised, is approved.
2. This Order shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Burl W. Haar
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)